

periodic table

Webster 1989

747

the atomic number in a systematic and periodic way (*PERIODIC TABLE) table (*chem.*) a tabular arrangement of elements based upon atomic number and showing the periodic recurrence of properties. The modern periodic table in long-period contains horizontally a very short period of elements, two short periods of eight elements each, two long periods of 18 elements each, a very long period of 32 elements, and an incomplete period. Vertically there are 16 columns (excluding the lanthanide series and actinide series) comprising eight groups divided into two subgroups each. Elements to the left and in the center are metals, to the right nonmetals. Metallic properties most pronounced for elements in the left-hand corner, and nonmetallic properties most pronounced for elements in the upper right-hand corner. Transition from metallic to nonmetallic properties is usually gradual and continuous from left to right. The structure of the periodic table and the periodic law follow from the quantized structure of the

periosteal (*peri-ostēal*) *adj.* of the periosteum
 periosteum (*peri-ostēum*) *n.* a fibrous membrane of connection which closely surrounds all bones at the joints [Mod. L. fr. Gk *peri*, + *osteon*, bone]
 peristaltic (*peri-staltik*) *adj.* of or designating peristalsis or the bony structure that surrounds it 2. *n.* this bony structure [fr. *PERI* + Gk *tr. ous* (*stos*), earl]
 peristaltic (*peri-staltik*) *adj.* moving about like to place *Peri-pa-tet-ic* 1. *adj.* Aristotle 2. *n.* a follower of Aristotle, an Aristotelian 3. *n.* Aristotle's habit of conversing with while they walked in the Lyceum
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peripheral (*peri-fērāl*) *adj.* of, concerning or forming a periphery || lying on a periphery || of electronic or mechanical devices of the basic processor, e.g., card readers, terminals, etc. || (*anat.*) of those which run outward from the brain and cord to the tissues [fr. Gk *periphēres*, around]
 periphery (*peri-fēr-i*) *n.* the boundary of a figure, esp. a rounded one || the part of something thought of as circled, the periphery of consciousness || the outer surface of a space or area || the areas in which the nerves terminate [fr. L.L. *periphēria* fr. Gk *peri*, around + *phērō*, to carry]
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permit

Perm (*pə:rm*) (called Molotov 1940-57) a river port and industrial center (pop. 1,023,000) of the western R.S.F.S.R., U.S.S.R., on the Kama; metallurgy, mechanical engineering, oil refining. University (1916)

perm (*pə:rm*) *n.* (esp. Br., pop.) a permanent wave

perm-alloy (*pə:rməloɪ*, *pə:rməloɪ*) *n.* an iron-nickel alloy of high magnetic permeability, giving little loss of energy by hysteresis (trade-mark Permalloy fr. PERMEABLE + ALLOY)

permanence (*pə:rmənəns*) *n.* the quality or state of being permanent *permanency* *pl.* *permanencies* *n.* permanence || someone or something that is permanent || a permanent position [fr. M. L. *permanentia*]

permanent (*pə:rmənənt*) 1. *adj.* continuing and enduring without change 2. *n.* (pop.) a permanent wave [fr. L. *permanens* (*permanētis*) fr. *permanere*, to remain to the end]

permanent magnet a magnet, usually of cobalt steel or nickel steel, which retains its magnetism for a long time

permanent magnetism magnetism retained by a substance in the absence of any external magnetic field

permanent memory (computer) data that are retained when power is cut off

permanent press durable press chemical and steaming process for treating fabric to retain creases. also durable press

permanent wave a wave set in hair by chemicals and sometimes heat, and lasting a long time

permanent way (Br.) a railroad track designed to carry a train service for many years

permanganate (*pə:rməngəneɪt*) *n.* a salt of permanganic acid, esp. potassium permanganate

permanganic acid (*pə:rməngənɪk*) *HMnO₄*, a strong acid known only in solution and by its salts (permanganates)

permeability (*pə:rmɪəbɪlɪtɪ*) *n.* the quality or state of being permeable (*MAGNETIC PERMEABILITY)

permeable (*pə:rmɪəbəl*) *adj.* able to be permeated [fr. L. *permeabilis*]

permeance (*pə:rmɪəns*) *n.* a permeating or being permeated || the quality of being permeable

permease (*pə:rmɪəz*) *n.* (biochem.) 1. bacterial system that facilitates transportation of soluble substances in the cell. 2. an enzyme in a cell membrane that concentrates lactose

permeate (*pə:rmɪət*) *pres. part.* permeating *past* and *past part.* permeated *v.t.* to penetrate wholly, pervade, soak through, a smell of baking permeated the house || *v.i.* to diffuse or spread through something permeation *n.* [fr. L. *permeare* (*permeatus*), to pass through]

per men-sem (*pə:rmənsəm*) *adv.* by the month [L.]

Permian (*pə:rmɪən*) *adj.* of the latest period or system of the Paleozoic era, characterized by the decline of amphibians and development of reptiles, by extensive glaciation, and by red sandstone and shales (*GEOLOGICAL TIME)

Permian the Permian period or system or rocks [after Perm, former Russian province in the Urals]

permissibility (*pə:mɪsəbɪlɪtɪ*) *n.* the quality or state of being permissible

permissible (*pə:mɪsəbəl*) *adj.* that may be permitted *permissibly* *adv.* [O.F.]

permission (*pə:mɪʃən*) *n.* freedom, power, privilege etc. which one person or authority grants to another, he has her permission to park in the drive || a permitting, or being permitted [fr. L. *permissio* (*permissio*)]

permissive (*pə:mɪsɪv*) *adj.* permitting, tolerating || morally tolerant in a high degree [O.F. *permissif*, *permissivus*]

permissivist or permissivist (*pə:mɪsɪvɪst*) *n.* one who believes in policy of indulgence of behavior not generally acceptable

permit 1. (*pə:mɪt*) *v. pres. part.* permitting *past* and *past part.* permitted *v.t.* to give voluntarily or officially to (someone or something) some right, opportunity, power etc., he permitted them to stay away from school || to accept or agree to (something), how can you permit such insolence? || to make possible, the addition of a window permits better air circulation || *v.i.* to provide opportunity, drop in when time permits || (with 'of') to admit of, there were too many present to permit of any intimacy 2. (*pə:mɪt*, *pə:mɪt*) *n.* a written license issued by an au-

NONUNCIATION KEY: (a) æ, cat; a, car; ɔ, law; e, snake. (e) e, hen; i, sheep; iə, deer; ɔə, bear. (i) i, fish; ai, tiger; ɔ, bird. ou, goat; u, poor; ɔɪ, royal. (u) u, duck; u, bull; u, goose. x, lock; θ, think; ʒ, bother; z, Zen; ʒ, corsage; ʒ, yak; ʃ, fish; ʃ, fetch; ʃ, rabbit; ʃ, redder. Complete pronunciation key appears inside front cover.